

lowest was 6 inches from the earth of the pot and the highest 8 inches, so the five were closely crowded together. The trunk at this point is little, if any, larger than a lead pencil. The fruit is of good color, as Chinese peaches go, and taste better than any others I have eaten in China. The flesh is white and it clings to the pit. The fruit hangs on the tree a very long time and is quite ornamental. The blossoms are quite showy, too. The Chinese say it comes true from the pits. I picked the last one yesterday, and the first was ripe a month ago. The ordinary peaches here are very poor—not fit to eat unless cooked.” (*Campbell*.)

For an illustration of this peach, see Plate VI.

41396 to 41400. AMYGDALUS PERSICA L. Amygdalaceæ. Peach.
(*Prunus persica* Stokes.)

Seeds from Barcelona, Spain. Presented by Mr. Carl Bailey Hurst, American consul general. Received October 14, 1915. Quoted notes by Mr. Hurst.

“The peach tree of Spain is said to be of Persian origin and its numerous varieties as found here to-day may be divided into four classes—the common peach, or *Albérchigo*, the fruit of which has a yellow and red skin; the *Abridor*, the fruit of which has white, tender flesh; the *Pare*, the fruit of which is fine and succulent, and the *Bruñón*, the fruit of which has a hard flesh and strong, tenacious skin. From these four kinds 44 varieties have been developed. Those most cultivated here are divided into two groups, those planted in the spring and those planted in the fall. The spring peaches, which ripen in June and July, are known as *temprano*, or early, the varieties of which found chiefly here are *Magdalena Rojo*, *De Malta*, *Canciller*, and *Valenciano*. Seeds of the fall peaches known as *tardío*, or late, can not be had at present in any of the peach stores of Barcelona.

“Spanish peach trees are planted in well-fertilized soil, the depth varying according to the quality and nature thereof and local weather conditions. A piece of bone is placed at the bottom of each hole made in the soil before planting. From the experience of local horticulturists it has been found that the use of a mixed vegetable and animal fertilizer is best adapted to the growth of the young peach trees. The earth around the planted tree should be worked frequently. The planting of peach trees too close to garden or other walls is found to be highly prejudicial to their development, and in transplanting they should be placed not nearer than 1 foot away. During the first three or four years much attention is devoted to the pruning of Spanish peach trees, in order to develop symmetric growth and enable the sap to distribute itself proportionately in all parts. Argillaceous or very cretaceous soil is not found advantageous to peach culture here, as in such soil the roots can not extend freely. If the soil be too damp, the fruit becomes insipid and matures late. Where the soil is sandy the fruit produced is more aromatic, but less juicy. The soil preferred for peach culture in Spain is a turfy mellow loam of a calcareous nature. The seed of the cultivated peach is very rarely planted here, as the growth of the tree is so slow that four years are required to produce fruit. When, however, it is planted by the nurseryman, it is usually done in the month of March. The Spanish horticulturist prefers to plant a wild-peach seed which grows rapidly and gives at the end of a year a stock upon which a cultivated peach bud may be grafted. The budding is generally done in August, but may also be performed in May or September. The incision is made from 4 to 6 inches above the ground. Preferable here to grafting on the wild-peach stock is grafting the cultivated peach on the almond or cherry